**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION** 

Meeting Concerning The Revision of the Oversight Program for Nuclear Fuel Cycle Facilities

AGENCY:

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)

ACTION:

Notice of Public Meeting

SUMMARY: NRC will hold a public meeting in Lynchburg, VA to provide the local public, facility employees, citizens' groups, and local officials with information about, and an opportunity to provide views on, how the NRC plans to revise and improve its oversight program for commercial nuclear fuel cycle facilities regulated under 10 CFR Parts 40, 70, and 76. The facilities include gaseous diffusion plants, high- and low-enriched uranium fuel fabrication facilities, and a uranium hexafluoride (UF<sub>6</sub>) production plant. These facilities possess large quantities of materials that are potentially hazardous (radioactive, toxic, or flammable) to workers, the public, or the environment. Also, some of the facilities possess information and material important to national security. Two of these regulated facilities, BWX Technologies and Framatome, are located in Lynchburg.

The goal of this revision project is to have an oversight program that: 1) provides earlier and more objective indications of facility performance in the areas of safety and national security, 2) increases stakeholder confidence in the NRC, and 3) increases regulatory effectiveness, efficiency, and realism. To this end, the NRC is striving to make the oversight program more risk-informed and performance-based. The oversight revision project is described in SECY-99-188, "Evaluation and Proposed Revision of the Nuclear Fuel Cycle Facility Safety Inspection Program," and in SECY-00-0222, "Status of Nuclear Fuel Cycle Facility Oversight Program Revision." SECY-99-188 and SECY-00-0222, as well as other background information, are available in the Public Document Room and on the NRC Web Page at http://www.nrc.gov.

PURPOSE OF MEETING: To obtain stakeholder views for improving the NRC oversight program for ensuring fuel cycle licensees and certificate holders maintain protection of worker and public health and safety, protection of the environment, and safeguards for special nuclear material and classified matter in the interest of national security. The public meeting will focus on the revisions that are being made to the program, and on how interested parties can provide input to the change process.

DATE AND LOCATION: Members of the public, industry, and other stakeholders are invited to attend and participate in the meeting, which is scheduled for 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 31, 2001. The meeting will be held at the Lynchburg Technology Center, which is located at 1574 Mount Athos Road, Lynchburg, VA 24501.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Patrick Castleman, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, telephone (301) 415-8118, e-mail pic@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 15th day of May, 2001.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, (Original signed by)

Patrick Castleman, Project Manager
Inspection Section
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